

THE GREAT WAR: Some Notes Prepared for the Training Detachment
at Hampton Institute

By Wm. Anthony Aery

- 1 Morale to Win the War — "It is important for every American citizen to give to his country everything he has — every ounce of his loyalty, sympathy, and backing along whatever line he may be called upon to give. ...

"We are not, however, going back on our schools, our parents, our friends, our race, and our country because they are not perfect.

"We are going to do all we can to be perfect ourselves in our attitude, conduct, and spirit toward our country and our flag. That will make the morale, that will make the spirit that ought to be back of our government, that ought to be back of our men in the trenches." — Dr. Robert R. Moton, Principal of Tuskegee Institute

- 2 War for Humanity — "This is no time for us to worry over our own difficulties within our own country. You and I must stand by our men, — black men and white men, — by our President and his advisers.

"Let them know, and let the people around us know, that we are once and for always loyal to the flag of our country and that our patriotism, which has never been on trial, is not going to be on trial, because we are not going to give it a chance to be on trial.

"Let them know that we are willing to sacrifice, give, and serve in whatever capacity we are called upon to serve and are gladly making the sacrifice for humanity, for that, in the last analysis, is what this war is for." — Dr. Moton

- 3 War Department and Colored Soldiers — "I think I can speak advisedly and say that there sits in the War Department a man, small of stature though he be, of large and commanding intellect and with a courage surpassing the courage of almost any man I know, who was not afraid to undertake the experiment of a training camp for colored men and was not afraid to call colored men to arms. ...

"I think I can speak advisedly when I say that Secretary Baker is determined that a man who is willing to lay his life on the altar of his country is worthy of being promised and having vouchsafed to him the same promise and the same reward which are vouchsafed to every other man that is willing to lay down his life for his country. I know that that is the spirit of the War Department. I know that is the spirit of the President of the United States." — Dr. Emmett J. Scott, Special Assistant to Secretary Baker



- 4 Democracy for All Men — "No man can make me believe that in the triumphant folds of this democracy, when it has been achieved, not only for the men of Serbia and Rumania, of France, and Russia, and England, and even for the men of Germany as well, there is not also to be included the men of America — the black no less than the white." — Dr. Scott
- 5 Negro Press and the War — "We wish to affirm, first of all, our unalterable belief that the defeat of the German Government and what it today represents is of paramount importance to the welfare of the world in general and to our people in particular.

"We deem it hardly necessary, in view of the untarnished record of Negro Americans, to reaffirm our loyalty to our country and our readiness to make every sacrifice to win this war.

"We wish, however, as students and guides of public opinion among our people, to use our every endeavor to keep these 12,000,000 people at the highest pitch, not only of passive loyalty, but of active, enthusiastic, and self-sacrificing participation in the war." — Resolutions of Negro Editors meeting in Conference with Dr. Scott, June 1918

- 6 American Idea of the State — Lincoln's description of a republic — a government of the people, for the people, and by the people — has come to describe more and more accurately with the passing years our own American Government.

In the United States the people, of course, consider it wrong to lie, steal, commit adultery, or commit any injury against an individual or group of individuals. The people make similar demands for right conduct of local and state governments as well as of the National Government.

The improvement and development of the individual, which must include his adequate protection in life, property, and other rights, to the end that society as a whole may be improved and developed, is the American idea of the State.

"We are at the beginning of an age in which it will be insisted that the same standards of conduct and of responsibility for wrong doing shall be observed among nations and their governments that are observed among the individual citizens of civilized states. ... It is clear that nations must in the future be governed by the same high code of honor that we demand of individuals." -- President Wilson

- 7 German Idea of the State — "The State, as swayed by the monarch, is supreme and is, therefore, by its very nature relieved from the moral obligations incumbent upon private individuals. ...

[If there comes a conflict with the interest of the State] "the inviolability of human personality, whether in an individual or in a free people, is set at naught."

The full expression of the doctrine is found in so-called Kaiserism. In 1900 William II. said: "Without Germany and the German Emperor no great decision dare henceforth be taken. Again he said: "He who opposes me, him will I crush." Again: "There is only one law and that is my law."

"The German has based his whole system of thought and all his standards of conduct upon a creed that recognizes no interest as sacred and no obligation as binding, save as these are in furtherance of Teutonic ambition. To the Hollenzollern thought there seems no right that is incompatible with the divine right of the German Superman. The fundamentals of American economy and ethics differ from those of the Kaiser as widely as Christ differs from Nietzsche and Lincoln from Bismarck." — Pennsylvania School Journal

- 8 Militarism — "Militarism is a state of mind; not the having of an army, no matter how large, but the exaltation of it to the chief place in the State, the subordination to it of the civil authorities. Joined to this is the reliance upon military force in every dispute."

President Wilson said at West Point, June 13, 1916: "The spirit of militarism is the opposite of the civilian spirit, the citizen spirit. In a country where militarism prevails the military man looks down upon the civilian, regards him as intended for his, the military man's support... and just as long as America is America that spirit and point of view is impossible with us."

- 9 German Kultur — "Kultur indicates the whole mass of customs, usages, laws, institutions, and language from which the Prussian people derives its outlook. ... Kultur has come to indicate, since about 1860, the type of civilization for which Germany now stands sponsor." — "War Cyclopedia"

The Kaiser has said, "The German nation is now the only people left which is called upon to protect, cultivate, and promote those grand ideals which other nations have lost."

What are these "grand ideals" underlying German world supremacy? They are, according to the best German authority, national egotism, absolute obedience, material success, military power, and world supremacy.

"The might of the conqueror is the highest law before which the conquered must bow."

- 10 Germany's Objectives — "The establishment of a sphere of economic influence from the North Sea to the Persian Gulf has been for nearly two decades the silent, unspoken aim of German foreign policy. ... A secure future for Germany is to be reached along this line and no other." — "War Cyclopedia"

"Just as Prussia was destined to be the nucleus of Germany, so the regenerated Germany [regenerated through Kultur] shall be the nucleus of a future empire of the west. ... We proclaim from henceforth that our continental nation has a right to the sea, not only to the North Sea, but to the Mediterranean and the Atlantic.

"Hence we intend to absorb, one after another, all the provinces which neighbor on Prussia. We shall successively annex Denmark, Holland, Belgium, northern Switzerland, then Trieste and Venice, finally Northern France, from the Sambre to the Loire. . . We have ready to hand the means of founding it and no coalition in the world can stop us."

Food and territory; Poland and Ukraina in Russia; oil wells of Rumania; and a clear road to India through slaughter of Armenians by blood-thirsty Turks.

Germany concealed under her cloak of business the most nefarious sort of political propaganda. Not only did the German trading class try to break down all competition, but that trading class acted in many cases under the instruction of the Imperial Government. This was done in South America, Italy, Scandinavia, Russia, and even Switzerland. . . Every outpost of German business has been considered an outpost of the German Government.

"Germany has counted on her migrated citizens as being ready to forward Germany's interests even to the extent of damaging the interests of the lands of their adoption." — World's Work

- 11 President Wilson on the War Aims — (1) To make the world safe for democracy, (2) to secure "the right of those who submit to authority to have a voice in their own government"; (3) to make secure "the rights and liberties of small nations"; (4) to realize for nations the ideal of "each for all, and all for each"; (5) to secure a Christian standard of conduct among nations similar to that which obtains among good men.

"America seeks no material profit or aggrandizement of any kind. She is fighting for no advantage or selfish objects of her own, but for the liberation of peoples everywhere from the aggressions of autocratic force."

"What we seek is the reign of law, based upon the consent of the governed and sustained by the organized opinion of mankind." — Address at Mt. Vernon, Fourth of July 1918

- 12 Meaning of Democracy — "Democracy is a religious thing. It came straight from Jesus Christ. It is born out of the sense of the WORTH of every human soul as a child of God. . . Christianity began as a democracy of equal souls in the kingdom of God. Democracies have never originated wars of aggrandizement or of dominion. . . ."

"The desire to win democracy for the whole world is an act of service which is a Christian act." — Rev. Dr. Frederick Lynch

- 13 Negroes and the War — "Surely the Negroes of America are earning in France a living such as they have not always had heretofore. . . . The war has been of immense and unexpected advantage to the Northern Negroes in that it has not only doubled wages, but it has more than doubled the demand for their labor."



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"What effect will the present war conditions have on Negro wage-earners as a whole? We may safely say, I think [Walter G. Miller, graduate of Hampton Institute] that the average Negro will prove worthy of the valuable opportunities which are coming to him. He will be found investing his surplus earnings in real estate. He will also seek to better his living conditions and educational facilities."

"One thing that this war ought to teach us is the truth that is embodied in the facts which this colored student presents. It is that in this country we all go down or up together." — The Outlook, June 26, 1918

- 14 "Middle Europe" Plan — "Their plan was to throw a broad bolt of German military power and political control across the very center of Europe and beyond the Mediterranean into the heart of Asia; and Austria-Hungary was to be as much their tool and pawn as Serbia or Bulgaria or Turkey or the ponderous states of the East. Austria-Hungary, indeed, was to become part of the Central German Empire, absorbed and dominated by the same forces and influences that had originally cemented the German states themselves. The dream had its heart at Berlin. It could have had a heart nowhere else.

"It rejected the idea of solidarity of race entirely. The choice of peoples played no part in it at all. It contemplated binding together racial and political units which could be kept together only by force — Czechs, Magyars, Croats, Serbs, Rumanians, Turks, Armenians — the proud states of Bohemia and Hungary, the stout little commonwealths of the Balkans, the indomitable Turks, the subtle peoples of the East.

"These people did not wish to be united. They ardently desired to direct their own affairs, would be satisfied only by undisputed independence. They could be kept quiet only by the presence or the constant threat of armed men. They would live under a common power only by sheer compulsion and await the day of revolution" — President Wilson

- 15 "Middle Europe" Realized — "Unless Germany is defeated, she will emerge from the war the political and economic master of the territory stretching from Hamburg to Mesopotamia." — "War Cyclopaedia"

Germany has Montenegro, Albania, Serbia, most of Rumania, a large amount of Russian territory, nearly all of Belgium, a large tract in Northern France. She has 42,000,000 human beings under her control.

Germany "has seized the war material and the railroads: she has seized and taken away animals, grain, potatoes, sugar, alcohol, metals of many kinds, oils, textile fabrics, motors, machinery, rolling mills, electrical engines, looms, etc. She has helped herself to the personal property of the inhabitants — tapestries, rugs, pictures, jewels, securities, etc." — "War Cyclopaedia"

1. The first part of the document is a list of names and their corresponding numbers. The names are: "John", "Mary", "James", "Elizabeth", "Thomas", "Margaret", "William", "Ann", "Richard", "Sarah", "George", "Catherine", "Henry", "John", "Mary", "James", "Elizabeth", "Thomas", "Margaret", "William", "Ann", "Richard", "Sarah", "George", "Catherine", "Henry". The numbers are: "1", "2", "3", "4", "5", "6", "7", "8", "9", "10", "11", "12", "13", "14", "15", "16", "17", "18", "19", "20", "21", "22", "23", "24", "25", "26", "27", "28", "29", "30", "31", "32", "33", "34", "35", "36", "37", "38", "39", "40", "41", "42", "43", "44", "45", "46", "47", "48", "49", "50", "51", "52", "53", "54", "55", "56", "57", "58", "59", "60", "61", "62", "63", "64", "65", "66", "67", "68", "69", "70", "71", "72", "73", "74", "75", "76", "77", "78", "79", "80", "81", "82", "83", "84", "85", "86", "87", "88", "89", "90", "91", "92", "93", "94", "95", "96", "97", "98", "99", "100".

16 "Middle Europe" — Meaning to Germany — "German victory and the fruition of her most important war advantages depend directly in the maintenance of Central Pan-Germany, made up of Germany, Austria-Hungary, Serbia, Bulgaria, and Turkey. Now this maintenance is based on two prime conditions: (1) The continuance of Serbia's state of subjection to Austria-Hungary. (2) The preservation of the new economic and military lines of communication between Berlin on the one side and Vienna, Budapest, Sofia, and Constantinople on the other. ... Finally, if the present order of things is preserved, Germany can maintain the Hamburg-Bagdad line. This would be assured by the adoption of the formula 'peace without indemnities and annexations.'" — "War Cyclopedia"

17 The Three Fronts (Military, Economic, Political) — "Where the enemy is, there is the front. ... One of these fronts extends from the English channel to the Adriatic. Another lies in what we once called Russia. The third lies within the borders of the Central Powers. ...

"On the western front his power is military. On the Russian front his power is economic. On the interior front his power is political.

"Where his power is military our problem is simplest. It will be solved when we secure there a strong predominance of fighting men, well supplied and well maneuvered. ...

"Where the enemy's power is economic there our problem is more complicated. Germany, practically unopposed on the east, is reaching out to grasp and keep in her control the unmeasured resources of what was once the Russian Empire. ... We must not only beat Germany, but Germany plus Russian resources. ... The problem there is to reconstitute that front as a military front.

"Where the enemy's power is political there our problem is the most complicated, though not necessarily the greatest of all. In Austria-Hungary, in parts of the Balkans which Germany controls, and in Austrian, Russian, and Prussian Poland there are peoples who, though long oppressed, have not allowed themselves to be suppressed. These, the Poles, Czechoslavs, and Jugoslavs, still retain their fiery spirit and their love of freedom. These people are our natural allies.

"She Germany failed to understand that there are no ties that can withstand the expanding power of the love of freedom. ... We have failed to remember these oppressed races who have kept their love of freedom in their hearts for generations, and who have found in oppression that which makes the love of freedom only fiercer. ...

"The economic and political fronts as well as the military call for military action." — The Outlook, June 26, 1918



8 Some of Germany's Crimes — (1) "Using the murder of Archduke Ferdinand of Austria [6/28/14] ... as a pretext to compel her vassal Austria to address a brutal, insulting ultimatum to Serbia, knowing full well that it would be rejected, since its acceptance would seal Serbia's national servitude";

(2) The sudden declaration of war against Russia, followed immediately by a declaration of war against France and the invasion of Belgium;

(3) The frightful use of weapons forbidden by civilization;

(4) The shooting and butchering of women and children;

(5) The practical reduction to slavery of captured civil populations;

(6) The pillaging, ravaging, and destroying of cities and districts with the fiendishness of the Huns;

(7) The inducing of the atrocious Turk to declare a fanatical holy war;

(8) The instigating of the Turkish massacre of the Christian populations in Armenia and Asia Minor. — Senator Claude A. Swanson

- 19 Immediate Cause of the War — The two sections of the insulting Austria-Hungarian ultimatum outlining 10 demands, which Serbia refused to consider at all favorably, were these:

"To accept the co-operation in Serbia of the representatives of the Austria-Hungarian Government in the suppression of the subversive movement directed against the territorial integrity of the monarchy;

"To take judicial proceedings against the accomplices in the plot of the 28th of June [1914] who are on Serbian territory. Delegates of the Austria-Hungarian Government will take part in the investigation relating thereto."

These Austrian demands were made on Serbia at 6 p.m. on July 23 and a reply was called for not later than 48 hours thereafter.

- 20 Austria's Declaration of War on Serbia — "In spite of the effort at mediation of Great Britain, Russia, and France, Austria declared war on Serbia, July 28, 1914." Germany demanded that the war be localized; that is, no other power should interfere with Austria's chastisement of Serbia. Belgrade was bombarded, July 29-30, and the Great War was begun. — See Harding's "Topical Outline of the War," p. 13



Some Evidences of American Neutrality — (1) Immediately after the commencement of the Great War, President Wilson, by a formal proclamation, declared the policy of this country would be to maintain a position of strict neutrality toward the belligerents and to claim all the rights of a neutral under international law and firmly to vindicate these rights, from whatever source assailed.

The President went so far as to invoke our people to be neutral alike in thought, expression, and action.

(2) At first our Government discouraged the extension of credit to any of the warring countries. Later, when it changed its policy, each of the warring countries was allowed to float loans in this country. One of the first warring nations to sell Government bonds here was Germany! Germany was given access to our financial markets equally with other belligerents. Our citizens were permitted to subscribe for her bonds without the slightest governmental discrimination.

(3) When the Allies sought to have submarines partially constructed in this country and then sent to Canada for completion we said: "No," and we kept our promise.

(4) When the "Deutschland" arrived at Baltimore in July, 1916, with a cargo from German ports, the British and French Governments protested and insisted that submarines should not be treated as merchant vessels. When our Government found that the "Deutschland" had no guns or torpedoes, it promptly denied the contention of the Allies and "held that the 'Deutschland' was a merchant vessel and should be permitted, as the merchant vessels of the other belligerents, to enter and depart from American ports carrying such cargo as she desired."

Further, the U. S. Government sent its war vessels to the Virginia Capes to enforce our neutrality by preventing a possible attack on the "Deutschland" within the three-mile limit.

Again in October, 1916, when the "Deutschland" left New London she was permitted to include in the cargo munitions and other contraband and depart unhampered and unrestrained. ...

"Under universally accepted international law the citizens of a country can sell any belligerent munitions and contraband of war."

Germany did this during our own Spanish-American War. She maintained this principle from 1870 onward.

(5) In the early part of the war various German warships entered the ports of the United States and were generously accorded every courtesy and were given ample time to make repairs and obtain supplies.

2 German Corrupt Practices — The money which Germany secured in the United States from the sale of her war bonds she used corruptly "to further a traitorous propaganda in this country to make the United States a subservient and useful tool for the accomplishment of the despicable aims of German autocracy." It was used:

(1) To finance and incite a rebellion in India against the British people, with whom we were at peace;

(2) To promote the German inspired and German supported uprising of Sir Roger Casement;

(3) To hire incendiaries to burn and wreck bridges and destroy important industries in Canada;

(4) To purchase and prepare bombs to be placed on allied and neutral ships lying in our harbors;

(5) To encourage strikes and sabotage in our manufacturing plants;

(6) To produce division and dissention among ourselves.

Other evidences of German corrupt practices: (1) German officers violated their word of honor and escaped; (2) Germans illegally used our territory as a base for supplying German warships with coal and other supplies; (3) Germans tried to control employees in our munition plants so as to cripple and destroy these plants; (4) the German Ambassador, von Bernstorff, tried to bribe Congressmen; (5) Germans tried to foment trouble between the United States and Central and South America, and especially between the United States and Mexico and Japan; (6) German agents tried to stir up the colored population.

3 Germany's Attack on the Freedom of the Seas — Germany's doctrine of the freedom of the seas contained in her decree of Jan. 31, 1917, that all vessels entering the barred zone (1400 miles long and 1200 broad in the Atlantic, all of the Mediterranean Sea, except a small portion fringing the coast of Spain) "would be sunk without warning." This was an act of tyranny and impudence unsurpassed in the world's history.

This German decree precipitated a conflict for the freedom of the seas. The very civilization of the world, dependant as it is upon trade and commerce, had been put in peril by the German decree concerning the barred zone.

This struck at three-fifths of our export trade, which in 1916 amounted to \$5,481,000,000 — and of this \$3,382,000,000 went to the allied belligerent countries.

After the barred zone decree, issued by Germany on Jan. 31, 1917, the United States severed diplomatic relations. President Wilson then requested the Congress to empower him to arm our merchant ships with naval guns and man them with naval crews. This measure passed the House promptly, but was killed in the Senate by a filibuster.

Germany became convinced that we did not have the will and courage to defend our rights and that we would tamely submit to any indignity and outrage she might perpetrate. Hardly had Congress adjourned before Germany began the enforcement of this lawless and impudent decree.

- 24 German Submarine Warfare — Early in 1915 Admiral Tirpitz declared the intention of Germany to use submarines for destroying merchantmen. In February, 1915, an effort was made to establish a war zone about the British Isles. England then put food for Germany on the contraband list.

German submarine warfare was only "a more flagrant expression of a German state policy running amuck in absolute disregard of every sense of national and international morals and decency and callous to the claims of common humanity." — Foreword to "The War Message and Facts Behind It"

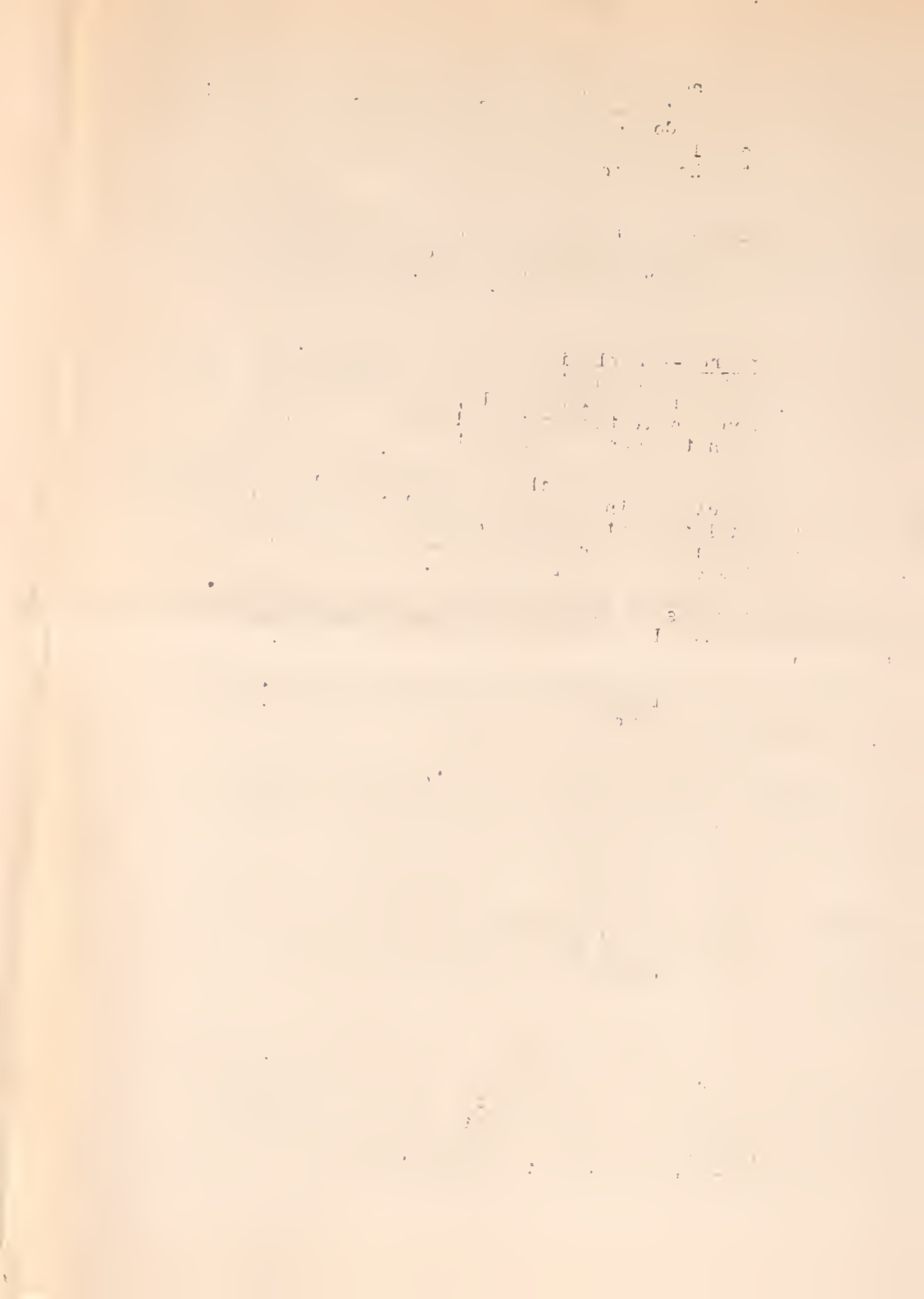
"The present German submarine warfare against commerce is a warfare against mankind. It is a war against all nations." — President Wilson

In all, up to the declaration of war by us, 226 American citizens, many of whom were women and children, had lost their lives by the action of German submarines.

The New York Times History of the War for May, 1917, reported that "the United States Government made an official estimate that by April 3, 1917, no less than 686 neutral vessels had been sunk by German submarines since the beginning of the war. This did not include any American vessels."

- 25 The Government of Germany — (1) The German Emperor declares war with the consent of the Bundesrath (Federal Council). If the war is defensive, he does not need to consult the Bundesrath. The German Emperor is the commander-in-chief of the Army and Navy. He has charge of foreign affairs and makes treaties.

(2) The German Emperor is assisted by a Chancellor, whom he appoints and whom he removes, and who is responsible to him and him alone. Under the Chancellor are various secretaries of state, who simply administer departments. They are responsible to the Chancellor and are not obliged to resign, if they are outvoted by the Reichstag.



(3) The German Bundesrath possesses legislative, executive, and judicial functions. It is an assembly of delegates who represent the rulers of the 25 States of the German Empire. There are 61 members. Prussia has 17 (of the 3 votes allotted to Alsace-Lorraine are "construted" by the Emperor); Bavaria, 6; Saxony, 4; Württemberg, 4; others from 2 to 3; 17 States have only 1 each. It ratifies or rejects every law passed by the Reichstag. Its proceedings are secret. — See Charles D. Hazen, "The Government of Germany"

(4) The German Reichstag "has no power to make or unmake ministries ... to control the executive, the Emperor" (Hazen). It may express its lack of confidence in the Chancellor, but this makes no difference to him as long as he enjoys the confidence of the German Emperor.

There are in the Reichstag 397 members, elected for a term of 5 years, by male voters who are 25 years of age or older. Prussia has 236 members, or nearly 60 per cent

"Practically, the Reichstag is limited to accepting or rejecting Bundesrath measures. Even its control over taxation is incomplete, because most revenue measures, instead of being annual appropriations, are standing laws; that is, once passed, they remain in force until changed; and they can be changed only with the consent of the Bundesrath." — W.M. West, "Modern History"

The Reichstag is "blocked and immensely outweighed by the Emperor, by the Bundesrath, and by the Army" (Hazen).

In 1871 its electoral districts were laid out — about 100,000 population to the district. Since then there have been practically no changes in the district lines and progressive cities are inadequately represented.

(5) German Voting System. — "The votes are divided in each electoral district into 3 classes according to wealth. The amount of taxes paid by the district is divided into 3 equal parts. ... Each of these parts is voted separately, elects an equal number of delegates to a district which convention chooses the delegates of that constituency to the Lower House of the Prussian Parliament. ... Though every man has the suffrage, the vote of a single rich man may have as great weight as the votes of a thousand workmen. ... In 1900 the Social Democrats, who actually cast a majority of the votes, got only 7 seats out of nearly 400." — C. D. Hazen

Voting is done by the spoken word and the great landowners, manufacturers, and the State itself can bring great pressure on the average voter

- 26 Why Great Britain Fights -- "We are not fighting a war of aggression against the German people. ... The destruction or disruption of Germany or the German people has never been a war aim with us from the first day of this war to this day. ...

"We were forced to join in this war in self-defence, in defense of the violated public law of Europe, and in vindication of the most solemn treaty obligations on which the public system of Europe rested and on which Germany had ruthlessly trampled in her invasion of Belgium. We did to join in the struggle or stand aside and see Europe go under and brute force triumph over public right and international justice. ...

"Nor are we fighting to destroy Austria-Hungary or to deprive Turkey of its capital, or of the rich and renowned lands of Asia Minor and Thrace, which are predominantly Turkish in race.

"Nor did we enter this war to alter or destroy the Imperial Constitution of Germany." -- David Lloyd-George

- 27 Consent of the Governed -- "Equality of rights among nations, small as well as great, is one of the fundamental issues this country and her allies are fighting to establish in this war. ...

"The settlement of the new Europe must be based on such grounds of reason and justice as will give some promise of stability. Therefore it is that we feel that government with the consent of the governed must be the basis of any territorial settlement in this war." -- David Lloyd-George

- 28 Britain's War Demands -- "The first requirement, therefore, always put forward by the British Government and their allies, has been the complete restoration, political, territorial, and economic, of the independence of Belgium and such reparation as can be made for the devastation of its towns and provinces. This is no demand for war indemnity. ... It is not an attempt to shift the cost of war-like operations from one belligerent to another. ... It is no more and no less than an insistence that before there can be any hope for stable peace, this great breach of the public law of Europe must be repudiated and so far as possible repaired.

"Next comes the restoration of Serbia, Montenegro, and the occupied parts of France, Italy, and Rumania. The complete withdrawal of the alien armies and the reparation for injustice done is a fundamental condition of permanent peace." -- David Lloyd-George

29 Britain Stands by France -- "We mean to stand by the French democracy to the death in the demand they make for a reconsideration of the great wrong of 1871, when, without any regard to the wishes of the population, two French provinces were torn from the side of France and incorporated in the German Empire. This sore has poisoned the peace of Europe for half a century, and, until it is cured, such conditions will not have been restored." -- David Lloyd George

30 The Government of Great Britain -- (1) "The authority of Parliament is bounded only by the limits of the British Empire. ... Ordinarily Parliament does not legislate directly for the self-governing colonies. It exercises only a very general and remote supervision. ...

"The power of Parliament, like that of all sovereign bodies, is limited by the 'willingness of the people to obey, or their power to resist.'

"'The principle of Parliamentary sovereignty' means neither more nor less than this ... that Parliament has the right to make or unmake any law whatever; and ... no person or body is recognized by the law of England as having a right to override or set aside the legislation of Parliament." -- Dicey, quoted by Moran in "The English Government"

(2) The Crown, which is King George V, at present in theory could upset all the actions of the civil government; could disgrace the country by a bad war or a bad peace; could disband the land and naval forces (see Walter Bagehot, "The English Constitution," p.32, and Todd, "Parliamentary Government in England").

At present in practice the foreign affairs are in the hands of the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs. The Crown cannot of itself establish any new court, or even meddle in judicial affairs; the appointing power can be exercised only upon the advice and with the consent of the Cabinet; the pardoning power is controlled by the Secretary of State for Home affairs.

The patronage of the Crown in the Church, in the army and navy, in the diplomatic service, and in the judiciary is practically determined by the Cabinet; the Crown has very little to do with military affairs for these are controlled by the Secretary of State for War and are under the general supervision of the Prime Minister; the Crown does not declare war, but has to leave the matter to the Cabinet, which usually asks the advice of Parliament.

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The treaty-making power is exercised by the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and neither Parliament nor the Crown has any direct participation; nominally the Crown is the head of the Church, but, in practice, the higher clergy under the general supervision of the Cabinet and Parliament control ecclesiastical affairs; the Prime Minister makes the nominations for the "honors" which the Crown grants officially.

(3) The Cabinet -- When a new Cabinet is to be formed the King asks for the majority leader of the majority party in the House of Commons and asks him to accept the office of Prime Minister, and intrusts him with the selection of his colleagues. The Prime Minister sends to the King the names of those whom he wishes to have serve in the conduct of the government. The King formally appoints and commissions the Ministers.

Members may be members of either House, but members of the Commons who receive appointments as Ministers must resign and secure a re-election.

"It is now a maxim of the English government that the Cabinet is responsible to Parliament. This at present practically means responsibility to the House of Commons. An adverse vote in the Commons terminates the existence of the Ministry, but a similar vote in the House of Lords does not."
-- Moran, "The English Government"

The Cabinet must urge the adoption of government measures in the House of Commons; must defend the Government's policy; must initiate public legislative measures; must defend so-called "vital questions;" and must resign as a whole when not supported.

Some officers of the Cabinet are: (a) Prime Minister, who usually becomes head of the Treasury department; (b) Lord High Chancellor, who corresponds to Chief Justice in the U. S. Supreme Court; (c) Chancellor of the Exchequer, who prepares the budget; (d) Secretary of State for Home Affairs, who supervises the police and certain local administration; (e) Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs; (f) Secretary of State for the Colonies; (g) Secretary for India; (h) Secretary of State for War; (i) First Lord of the Admiralty; (j) First Lord of the Board of Trade; (k) Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, (l) Secretary for Scotland; (m) First Commissioner of Works; (n) President of the Board of Agriculture.

(4) House of Lords -- The present work includes the revision of legislative bills. It rejects proposed legislation only when it feels that the action of the House of Commons does not represent the will of the people. It acts as the highest court of appeals.

(5) House of Commons is now the real governing power

in England. The power of the Crown has practically vanished, and that of the Lords is by no means co-ordinate with the power of the popular branch. It is the most important governmental institution in England.

"The whole tendency of the nineteenth century was democratic and the same spirit still pervades English politics. ... The House of Commons will not be found wanting when called upon to act in supreme emergencies." -- Moran, "The English Government"

- 31 Franco-Prussian War -- (1) In 1870 Bismarck, who prepared "Germany to be the last stronghold of despotism," made it his business to make the German people believe that France, under the leadership of Napoleon III, had forced Prussia into war.

(2) Today we know that the Franco-Prussian War was the outcome of German plotting and French militarism.

(3) To carry out the Prussian policy of aggrandizement, Bismarck had to unite North and South Germany. To check the Germans, Napoleon and his followers had to mould to the policy of military aggression a Liberal ministry which was definitely pacific.

(4) Napoleon III, who was the nephew of the great Napoleon, never forgot that he had overturned the republican government through the use of military power to make himself Emperor. He resolved to distract the attention of the French people with his brilliant foreign policy. He was "a clever and juggling politician endowed with ambition and a few general ideas."

An observant newspaper correspondent wrote: "By his mere declaration of war, Napoleon has done more toward unifying Germany than in the ordinary course of things could have been accomplished in a generation or two."

(5) German Preparedness -- "On July 16, throughout the length and breadth of the land, the telegraph bore the message: 'The army is to be mobilized according to plan;' and so completely had all details been arranged months beforehand that Moltke, as he said himself, needed but to announce the hour of departure of the trains to set the whole machinery in motion. Time and again, with his famous little tin soldiers, he had worked out the initial problems of the campaign. Soon, the minister of war, declared that the two weeks of mobilizing were the quietest of his official life: so clear had been the instructions that no questions remained to be asked or answered. There was no undue haste, no confusion. When the soldiers left the barracks they were all equipped, all ready for action. More than a million men were called out, about half of whom were actively engaged in the field." -- Henderson, "History of Germany"

(6) German Plan -- The general plan of the Germans, as officially formulated was simply to "seek the main force of the enemy and attack it where found. ... In the case of almost every victory the Germans lost more in killed and wounded than their adversaries, but in the end it shortened the war. "Men, it must be! Forward with God!" This command was shouted by one of the German generals.

(7) French Lack of Preparedness -- With the French it was all different. The minister of war, Le Boeuf, had, indeed, declared that the army was ready to the last button. The soldiers were huddled off to the neighborhood of Metz and Strassburg, but without the bare necessities of existence. They had had the advantage of proximity, of convenient access by railroad, of so-called "standing camps," from which they were supposed to be all ready to march out. The army of the line was not so inferior in numbers to that of the Germans, though the reserves were weaker by several hundred thousand. The men were brave and devoted, but the central direction was altogether lacking in vigor and in forethought.

The reports of the generals to the war office are monotonous in their similarity, in their constant tone of complaint: "No money in the corps treasury," "no sugar, no coffee, no rice, no brandy, no salt, very little ham and Zwieback; send at once a million rations." Or, worse still: "We have not a single map of the French frontier." One general of artillery writes that five hundred out of eight hundred harness collars are too tight for his horses, while another sends word in utter despair: "Not found my brigade, not found my division, general. What shall I do? Don't know the whereabouts of my regiment!" -- Henderson, "A History of Germany"

(8) Humiliation of France -- Bismarck, in arranging the treaty of peace following the surrender of Paris on January 28, 1871, deeply humiliated France by requiring France to give over to Germany two French provinces -- Alsace and northeastern Lorraine. In this way France was cut off from the Rhine.

The Germans also exacted the enormous indemnity of \$1,000,000,000 for the so-called unjustifiable attack which the French had made on the Germans. German troops were also to occupy French territory until the indemnity was paid. The French people made pathetic sacrifices to hasten the payment of this indemnity.

(9) The result of the war for Germany was that the states of South Germany decided to join the North German Federation and agreed on the name German Empire. The King of Prussia, who had served as the president of the Federation, became the Emperor of Germany on January 18, 1871.

(10) The result for France was the downfall of Napoleon III and the calling of a tumultuous assembly, headed by the brilliant lawyer, Leon Gambetta, who appointed a committee of national defense. Jules Favre issued a circular proclaiming the Republic.

(11) Result of the War for Italy — "The Franco-German war gave the opportunity for King Victor Emmanuel to complete the union of Italy by seizing Rome, which for a thousand years had been ruled by the Popes; for the French troops which had supported the papal rule were now withdrawn.

"September 20, 1870, the Italian troops, after a feeble resistance from the papal garrison, marched into Rome amid the cheers of the people, and not one of the Great Powers raised its voice in serious protest. Thenceforth Rome was the capital of the Kingdom of Italy." — Harding, "Medieval and Modern History

- 32 Italy and the War — (1) Italy after her unification "had to outlive the curse of sectionalism which left her weak at home and unfearful abroad. She had to catch up with her civilized neighbors in education, in railroads, in telegraphs, and in all the other organs of modern material progress. She was tremendously handicapped by a lack of coal and iron; she was very poor in the means of producing wealth; she was staggering under the debts of the former smaller states, out of which she grew."... — Wm. Roscoe Thayer

(2) The Triple Alliance — Germany, Austria, and Italy — formed in 1882 was purely defensive. The terms of the treaty were kept secret for many years. Most of Italy's gain was theoretic. Wm. Roscoe Thayer says: "The Alliance would protect her from an attack by France and would render improbable any attempt by Austria to restore the Pope."

The Triple Alliance somewhat increased Italy's feeling of importance and self-reliance. It opened the door to "peaceful penetration" by Germany and "reduced her," says Wm. Roscoe Thayer, "almost to the state of Germany's vassal in commerce and industry before the year 1914."

(3) Italy not Bound by Alliance in 1914 — "Late in the night of July 25, Italy announced to France that she would not take part against the Allies, but would denounce the Triple Alliance and retire from it. ...

"Italy's action permitted the French to withdraw several army corps from the Italian frontier, and transfer them to the North to meet the German shock." — Wm. Roscoe Thayer

The Italians knew that war of Teutons was aggressive and not defensive. The Italians exposed the pretexts and excuses of the German statesmen and the lies of the German Kaiser.

(4) Italy Gaining Strength — During the long months of Italian inaction, which followed the outbreak of the Great War, "rumors flew about -- rumors which the Germans did their utmost to spread -- that the Italians were soulless mercenaries, vilely waiting to see which of the combatants would pay them best for their support." — Wm. Roscoe Thayer

The Italians were impressive but not idle, "for they devoted themselves to getting ready for a large army, and when the outbreak of the war had found them exhausted in arms and supplies as well as in troops; their two years' work in Tripoli and against the Turks having left them quite unprepared for a new and greater conflict."

(5) German "Peaceful Penetration" -- "For twenty-five years German capital had been dominating Northern Italy (a promising field in which Chancellor von Bulow worked). Under its impulse banks, factories, mills, steamship companies, and a vigorous foreign trade had sprung up and prospered. Naturally, the Germans, who had the money, controlled these enterprises and put Germans in to manage them. German interests gradually became very powerful, and the native Italians found that deputies representing those interests were elected to parliament, and had much influence, direct or indirect, on legislation. So Prince Bulow could count on this support."... -- Wm. R. Thayer

(6) Italy's Declaration of War against Austria -- On May 24, 1915, Italy "amid a burst of popular enthusiasm" declared war on Austria. Italy regarded Austria as "the actual provoker of the war. The ultimate criminal was unquestionably Germany. ... Austria was also Italy's immediate neighbor. Austria held the territory of Unredeemed Italy. Austria was Italy's 'hereditary enemy and opponent'."

(7) Italy a Hard Fighter -- "Once at war, Italy prosecuted it with all her resources. In the course of a year she had a million men under arms at or near the front. She drilled two million more, but she had not enough arms or munitions or uniforms to equip them.

"She had to fight over the most difficult terrain in Europe." -- Wm. Roscoe Thayer

(8) Italy's Declaration of War against Germany -- Italy declared war on Germany in 1916, after she was certain that she had trained men to replace the German experts who had directed the mills, factories, and other works, especially in Northern Italy, where for 30 odd years "peaceful penetration" by the Germans had been going on.

Italy had before her the warnings afforded by Belgium and Poland. She dared, however, confront Germany.

(9) Italy's Fight for Liberty -- Italy "might have stayed out in ignoble neutrality. Her peril was immensely greater than ours, but she resolved to be true to her post and to cleave to the ideal of liberty which was the most precious legacy she had inherited from her past. She deserves the gratitude of civilized men today, and especially whatever success her allies can give her. She is sure of the praise and blessing of posterity tomorrow and ever after." -- Wm. Roscoe Thayer

(10) Italian War Aims — "The policy of the liberation of the races oppressed by Austrian tyranny affirmed itself for the first time in Rome. From the Italian Government it still receives the most vigorous defense.

"The pact of Rome signed by the official representatives of all the oppressed peoples of Austria — Italians, Czechoslovaks, Jugoslavs, Poles, and Rumanians — constitutes the corner-stone of the official Italian policy, as far as Austria is concerned. ...

"It is impossible to speak of misunderstanding in Italy among the organs of public opinion or among the members of the governing bodies, concerning the war policies of the nation. The national accord is absolute on this ground.

"That all the oppressed peoples of the heterogeneous empire of the Hapsburgs must be liberated by the final outcome of this war and be made arbiters of their own destinies; and this by the indestructible principle of nationality and auto-decision of the various peoples." Giuseppe Bevione, Member of the Italian Parliament, Director of the Italian Bureau of Public Information in the United States

"In Italy, moral unity is perfect as it relates to the war. All parties, from the conservative to the revolutionary, are as one in the wish for a victory which should restore to our fatherland its natural boundaries and re-establish right and justice in the world." — Dr. Orazio M. Pedrazzi

33

France and the War — (1) "The second cradle of liberty was amid the ruins of the Bastille in Paris. On July 14, 1789, the people of Paris destroyed this great mediæval prison, the emblem to them of tyranny and oppression and autocratic government. They lighted the torch of liberty at its smouldering ruins and sent their armies forth from the first great European Republic to carry this torch into a Europe governed by absolutism and cursed with privilege and inequality and injustice. ... France stands erect today, unconquered and unconquerable. America stands beside her." — Message from the American People on Bastille Day

(2) France in 1795 was prepared "to try a government which promised strength of executive, with reasonable liberty, fraternity, and equality.

"The mistakes and atrocities of the Revolution — the mob violence, the Terror, the revolutionary propaganda ... — were in part due to the emotional, volatile temperament of the French; in part also they were due to the lack of opportunity, under the old regime, to acquire experience in managing their own affairs." — Harding, "Mediæval and Modern History"

(3) From 1871 to 1873 Thiers (a "constitutional monarchist"), who loyally upheld the Republic as "the system that divides us least," controlled France. "Under his rule, France recovered rapidly from her disasters; the war indemnity of one billion dollars was paid to Germany; and in September, 1873, the last German soldiers withdrew." — Harding, "Medieval and Modern History"

(4) French Constitution of 1875 — "The [National] Assembly, in 1875, then passed a group of 'organic laws,' which are the basis of the present French constitution. The legislature consists of a Chamber of Deputies elected by universal suffrage every four years, and a Senate elected by secondary electoral bodies for nine years. The two chambers voting together elect the President of the Republic, whose term is seven years.

"The President's position is similar to that of a constitutional king: he can perform no executive act, except through responsible ministers; but he has the power (with the co-operation of the Senate) of dissolving the Chamber of Deputies and appealing to the country in a new election.

"In practice the Chamber of Deputies, like the British House of Commons, is the more powerful body of the two, making and unmaking ministries by its votes, and even compelling the president to resign.

"The social organization created by the first Revolution was preserved, together with the administrative system of the first Napoleon; and to these was now added a political constitution based on the sovereignty of the people, universal suffrage, and liberty of the press." — Harding, "Medieval and Modern History"

(5) Colonial Empire — From the sixteenth century onward there had been a serious struggle of Europeans with the pirates of the northern coast of Africa. These pirates terrorized the trade of the Mediterranean; seized trading ships, pillaged the shores of Spain and Italy; and carried off thousands of Christians into cruel slavery. Finally, France undertook to conquer these dangerous pirates.

"Gradually, therefore, the whole of Africa was systematically conquered and organized. The process took nearly twenty years, and was not completed until 1848." The French brought to Algeria peace and law and developed wisely the country's resources. Algeria's representatives now sit in the French Parliament." — Ramsay Muir, "The Expansion of Europe"

New Empire of France, 1878-1900 — In size the new colonial empire of France covered a total area of 5,000,000 square miles and in size ranked third; that is, after the empires of Russia and Great Britain. This colonial empire was the result of 75 years of strenuous labor, dating from the first invasion of Algeria. The greater part, however, was won between 1878 and 1900. The French nation showed the same "imaginative tact" in dealing with the alien peoples of Africa, for example, which it had shown in dealing with India and America during the eighteenth century. .. Ramsay Muir, "The Expansion of Europe"

(6) French War Aims — "Only our enemies have been able to impute intentions of conquest to us. ... Never was it a question of our annexing populations, under any form whatever, by right of conquest. ...

"The question of Alsace-Lorraine is not only a French question, but a world question. It is a symbol of right. ... We aim (a) at the restitution of the provinces which were torn from us by force, (b) the reintegration of Alsace-Lorraine, (c) a guarantee of a durable peace by agreement, and (d) a general organization by a society of nations.

"There are questions other than those of Alsace-Lorraine, which will have to be settled in the French sense or in the German sense. Will there be, or will there not be, a new Europe? Will there be, or will there not be, a durable peace for the nations?

"We spoke not only for Serbia and Belgium, but also for Poland. ... The Armenian and Syrian peoples, and all those who submit to the foreign yoke, deserve our sympathy.

"It is our duty to remain in touch with all the sane elements in Russia; with all the groups that realize the need to be free. ... We wish to serve a policy which will regenerate Russia." — M. Pichon, December 28, 1917

- 34 Bulgaria and the War — "Bulgaria cannot be absolved from her share of blame in connection with the war, for its wide extension and its prolongation. It was because of her that Turkey secured immunity from the fate that impended when the Dardanelles was attacked. It was through her that Russia was isolated. It was through her that disaster came to Serbia and Rumania. She constituted the essential link by which Middle Europe was to expand into the empire of Pan-German dreams. ...

"Bulgaria went into the war for the establishment of no principle; to remove no intolerable oppression or menace, but cynically to extend her dominion." — The Public

35 Africa and the War — (1) "South Africa's contribution [to "the enormous assemblage of non-combatant labor" in the war areas] "is particularly interesting because amongst the native races at present in France are to be found representatives of all those peoples who at one time or other, during the last thirty or forty years, have been in arms against the British rule in South Africa. Zulus, Basutos, Matabeles, and so on, are all recorded in the history of South Africa, one-time opponents of Great Britain, and now today they are giving of their best to help the British and the Allied cause.

"They are to be seen, as Sir Herbert Sloley, a former resident commissioner in Basutland, has said, felling trees, and handling timber in the forests of the Seine very much as they chop, top, and strip the wattle plantations in Natal. They shift cargoes in French ports and railway stations, in the style they have learned in Cape Town and Durban, whilst their familiarity with railway construction and the blasting processes of the Johannesburg and Kimberly mines make them valuable as quarrymen and railway workers."— Christian Science Monitor

(2) African Natives Support the French — "One of the bright spots in the outlook of France, during the last four years, has been the steady, unswerving loyalty of her colonies and dependencies. Morocco, which only a few years ago was seething in revolt and unrest, has not only become settled and prosperous, but has proved herself a staff in the hand of France, whilst Tunis, Senegal, Madagascar, and the other colonies have all rallied to the help of the mother country. ...

"In Algeria, as elsewhere throughout the French colonial empire, since the outbreak of the war, the natives have vied with one another in their desire to send as much help as possible to France. ... Algerians have fought side by side with Frenchmen all through the war, whilst Algerians at home were sending to France a steady stream of much needed supplies — horses, mules, cattle, sheep, fodder, and cereals, for example." — Pittsburgh Leader

(3) Germany's plan for a Central African Empire — Dr. Wilhelm Solf, Colonial Minister of Germany, in discussing Germany's African war aims, has said:

"Among the demands upon which Germany must insist in a victorious peace is the rounding off of her colonial territory in Africa. East Africa, Togo, and Southwest Africa will form the corner-stones of a united German Central Africa. A victorious Germany will be able to demand, as indemnity from England, France, Belgium, and Portugal, those cessions of territory which she needs for the building up of her Central African colonial empire. 'German Africa, from the Atlantic to the Indian Ocean,' must be our watchword. That will be a flaming revenge for the disgraceful breach of the Congo Acts by our enemies, for the low calumnies and abuse of Germanism abroad, and for the brutal destruction of our overseas trade. ...

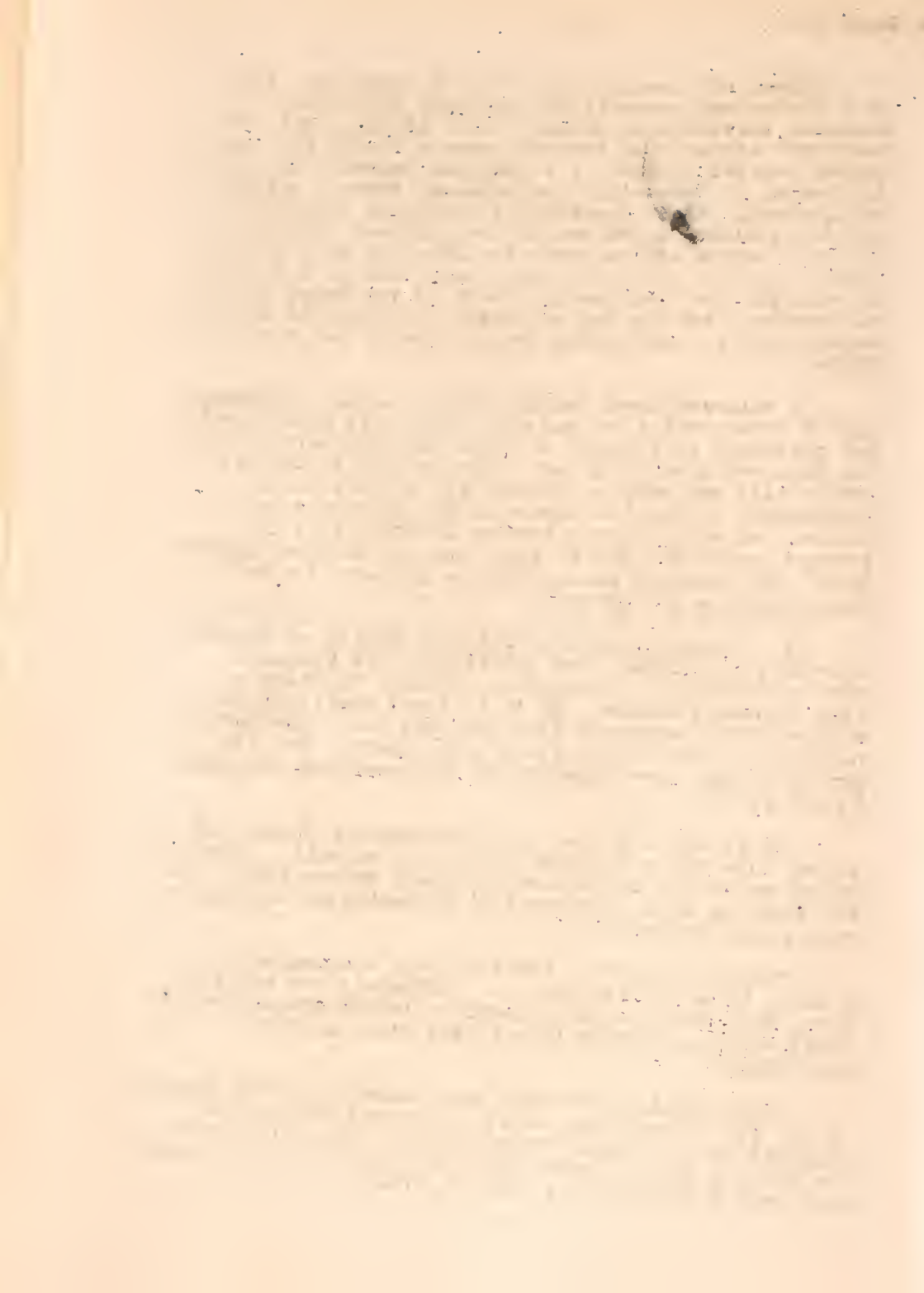
"A self-contained German Central Africa, equipped with a strong white and colored army, will never permit her neighbors to transfer a single man from Africa to the European theatre of war. New Germany in Central Africa will not only be invincible, but will also permanently fetter the forces of her neighbors in Europe, and will silence forever France's lust for revenge, which has fed so long upon her African auxiliaries. The peace of Europe will be anchored in the redistribution of Africa."

(4) Germany's African Colonial Policy — [German territory in Africa] "was practically all obtained within a period of three years, without fighting or even serious friction. It fell almost wholly within regions where Germany's interests had been previously negligible, and British trade predominant. Yet its growth had not been impeded, it had even been welcomed, by its rivals.

"It is not much over 1,000,000 square miles, but it was five times the size of Germany herself. Germany showed no desire to acquire territory before 1883. She had shown no marked activity in exploring or missionary work in her colonies.

"German emigrants, despite every encouragement, refused to settle in them. ... Officials and soldiers have, from the beginning, formed a larger proportion of their white population than in any other European possessions.

"Only Togoland has ever paid Germany her own expenses. In the first generation of its existence the German colonial empire, small though it is in comparison with the British or the French, actually cost the home government over \$500,000,000 in direct outlay.



"The main cause of this was that, from the first, the Germans showed neither skill nor sympathy in the handling of their subject populations. The uniformed official, with his book or rules, only bewilders primitive folk, and arouses their resentment. ... It was the ruthless spirit of mere domination, and the total disregard of native rights, which were displayed by the German administration.

"The idea of trusteeship, which had gradually established itself among the rulers of the British dominions, and in the French colonies also, was totally lacking among the Germans. They ruled their primitive subjects with the brutal intolerance of Zabern, with the ruthless cruelty since displayed in occupied Belgium.

"The causes of these ceaseless and ruinous wars was to be found partly in the total disregard of native custom, and in the hide-bound pedantry with which German-made law and the Prussian system of regimentation were enforced upon the natives; but it was to be found still more in the assumption that the native had no rights as against his white lord. His land might be confiscated; his cattle driven away; even downright slavery was not unknown, not merely in the form of forced labor, which has been common in German colonies, but in the form of the actual sale and purchase of Negroes." — Ramsay Muir, "The Expansion of Europe"

"White colonists, with small farms, were conspicuously absent in German East Africa. Instead, tracts of country were granted to companies, syndicates, or men with large capital, on condition that plantations of tropical products would be cultivated. The planters were supplied with native labor under a government system which compelled the natives to work for the planters for a certain very small wage during part of every year; and as labor was very plentiful, with seven and one-half millions of natives, the future for the capitalist syndicates seemed rosy enough. No wonder that under this corvée system West Africa and Kamerun were rapidly developed into very valuable tropical assets, from which in time the German Empire would have derived much of the tropical raw materials for its industries." — Gen. Jan Smuts

(5) Campaigns against German African Colonies —

In the military campaign against German East Africa, a Belgian colonial army co-operated from the Congo Free State on the west; a Portuguese army from Portuguese East Africa on the south; and two British armies — one from Rhodesia on the southwest and one from British East Africa on the northeast. The British invasion of German East Africa was led by Gen. Jan Smuts, who in 1915 had moved successfully against German Southwest Africa. During the Boer War, 1899 to 1902, General Smuts had served as an able Boer leader.

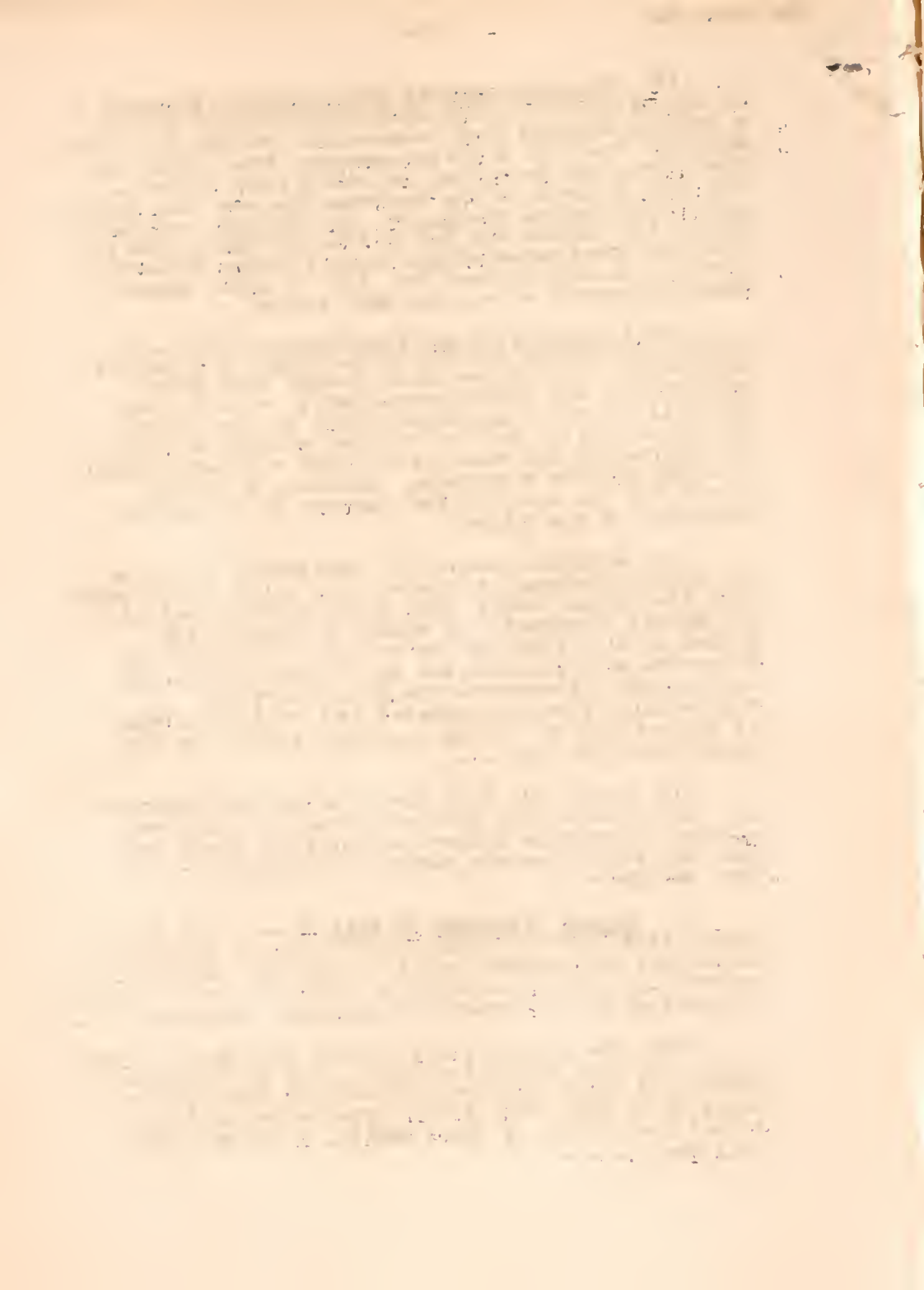
"It is impossible for those unacquainted with German East Africa to realize the physical transport and supply difficulties of an advance over this magnificent, but mountainous country, with a great rainfall and wide, unbridged rivers in the regions of the mountains, and insufficient surface water on the plains for the needs of an army; with magnificent primeval forests everywhere, pathless, trackless, except for the spoor of the elephant or the narrow footpaths of the natives.

"The malarial mosquito is everywhere except on the higher plateaus; everywhere the belts are infested with the deadly tsetse fly, which makes an end of all animal transport; and almost everywhere the ground is rich black or red cotton soil, which any transport converts into mud in the rain or dust in the drought. Everywhere the fierce heat of equatorial Africa, accompanied by a wild luxuriance of parasitic life, breeds tropical diseases in the unacclimated whites. ...

"If, above all, huge masses of men and material have to be moved over hundreds of miles in a great military expedition against a mobile and alert foe, then the strain becomes almost unendurable." — Gen. Jan Smuts

(6) German Treatment of Natives — "The first twenty-five years of German rule in German Southwest Africa was an unbroken record of official bad faith, private oppression, cruelty, barbarities, and robberies, culminating in the Herero and Hottentot rebellions. ...

"When the Germans first arrived they entered into agreements with the native chiefs, but those became 'scraps of paper' and the natives were fraudulently deprived of their best land. Traders and settlers robbed the natives of their cattle, which was their only wealth. ...



"The natives were driven to work at ridiculously inadequate wages and often were never paid. They were treated like slaves and their women folks were habitually maltreated by the Germans. ... The natives were goaded into rebellion which was suppressed by ruthless cruelty. ...

"The natives were not tried in ordinary courts, but by officers who also did police duties and had authority to delegate their judicial powers to subordinate officials. Imprisonment in chains and flogging were allowed, not only for serious crimes, but also as 'disciplinary measures,' on the application of an employer, ... for insubordination continued idleness, or neglect of duty. ... Native evidence was habitually disregarded. Natives were not allowed to give evidence on oath. ... No opportunity of redress was open to them. They dared not go to the police with complaints." — Report of E. H. L. Georges, quoted in New York Times

"The only objection which a Colonial Junker could find with the [African] system was that under it the native population in the German possessions dwindled. It was depleted by overwork and flogging, by disease and by war. Constant rebellions had to be put down with the mailed German fist. And, wherever it was possible, the natives emigrated into the French and English colonies where there was some hope of justice and life." — Harrison Rhodes of the Vigilantes

(7) Britain's African Colonial Policy — "The British Empire ... has never had any military ambitions apart from the measure of sea-power essential to its continued existence. In Africa it has never militarized the natives, has always opposed any such policy, and has tended to study the natives' interests and regard their point of view with special favor, often to the no small disappointment of individual white settlers.

"Indeed, no impartial person can deny that so far from exploiting the natives either for military or industrial purposes, British policy has, on the whole, over a very long stretch of years, had a tender regard for native interests, and, on the whole, the results have been beneficial to the natives in their gradual civilization.

"In shaping this wise policy British statesmen have had a very long and wide African experience to guide them, and in consequence they have avoided the very dangerous and dubious policies which the German newcomers have set in motion. Among these, not the least dangerous, is to regard the native primarily as raw material to be manufactured into military power — world power." — Gen. Jan Smuts



